

Town Hall meetings

Saturday, June 1st, 2002

10 a.m. - 12 noon

Lake Stevens High School
113th Ave. NE

1-3 p.m.

Snohomish PUD bldg.,
807 Rainier St.



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Representative
Hans Dunshee

PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600



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Representative

Hans Dunshee

39th District

2002 Session Report

Dear neighbors,

This legislative session was short, intense and productive — we got things done for citizens.

- Passing a plan to unclog traffic gridlock — building trust and giving citizens the final say with a public vote this November.
- Keeping the faith on education by funding the two school initiatives despite the recession and \$1.5 billion budget deficit.
- Balancing the budget with no new taxes.

This year was completely different than the past three years of gridlock and bickering, when the House was tied with 49 Republicans and 49 Democrats.

Political gridlock ended this year. I was happy to get things done.

For many of you, this is the last newsletter you'll get from me. Redistricting changed the political boundaries, moving my hometown of Snohomish from the 39th District to the 44th District. So if I run for the House again, it won't be in the 39th District.

Each community in the district is unique — Darrington is quite different than Lake Stevens — and even those who disagreed with me taught me something. I appreciate that.

I welcome your questions or comments. Just send me an e-mail or call my district office in Snohomish.

Thank you again for the honor and privilege of serving as your representative to the House.

Sincerely,

Hans Dunshee
Representative, 39th District

District office:

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Committees:

Local Govt. & Housing, Chair
Agriculture & Ecology
Appropriations

Hotline: 800-562-6000

www.leg.wa.gov/house/members/d39_1.htm

TRANSPORTATION

Citizens want a public vote on any transportation solution. So I'm happy to say that citizens get their say this November, when they vote on the statewide plan to unclog traffic gridlock. The folks who talk to me in the local Safeway or on the street all say the same thing: they don't trust government, and that's why they want a public vote on the traffic plan. It's their taxes and their daily commute. That's why I voted to send the plan to the people. We need to unclog traffic — and rebuild the public's trust.

Local projects

SR 531/Smokey Point widening of overpass & road	\$21.9 million
SR 9/Safety improvements and turn lanes	\$50 million
I-5/HOV lanes to Everett	\$230 million
SR 522/Four lanes from Paradise Lk to Snohomish River	\$40 million
SR 96/Connecting 132nd to SR 9	\$11million

Hidden taxes of gridlock

Traffic gridlock already costs you far more in hidden taxes than any solution would cost. That fact is a big reason I voted in the House for the statewide plan. Right now, traffic gridlock costs the average person in our area \$930 a year out of their wallet and 53 hours out of their lives. There's also a huge cost in human lives. Traffic accidents are the No. 1 killer of children and young adults. Gridlock makes our roads even more unsafe.

Carpools and vanpools

What's the most expensive way of fixing traffic gridlock? Building more lanes of highway. If you look at southern California, it doesn't matter if the highway has four lanes or ten lanes — there's still gridlock. So while we do need to build more lanes of highway in Washington state, asphalt isn't a cure-all. About 40 percent of all morning commuters from Snohomish County to King County travel in one lane: the HOV lane. The transportation plan includes \$30 million in tax credits to businesses for carpools, vanpools, bus passes, walking or biking to work — anything except driving alone. Community Transit right here in Snohomish County has the largest vanpool fleet in the nation. It'll only get stronger since the plan includes \$40 million for vanpools and \$80 million for park and ride lots. Our park and ride lots in Snohomish County are full, making it tough for folks to get out of their cars and try alternatives. For more information: www.wsdot.wa.gov/pubtran/tripreduction/



What do you think?

Because we tackled big issues like traffic and the budget, I'd like your ideas on other problems.

What's the best way to reduce crime?

- ☐ Longer prison sentences
- ☐ Treatment instead of prison for non-violent drug offenders
- ☐ Raise taxes to pay for more cops, courts, and jails

What's your top priority if the Legislature tackles moral issues?

- ☐ Ban abortion
- ☐ Establish prayer in school
- ☐ Improve conditions for animals used in food production
- ☐ End the death penalty

Steel-jawed animal traps

- ☐ Repeal the initiative that banned leg-hold traps
- ☐ Keep the ban on leg-hold traps
- ☐ Amend the law to trap moles, but not other animals

Protecting our environment

- ☐ Let the market police itself on pollution
- ☐ Only the government can protect the environment

Comments:

Please complete survey, cut out and mail to my district office at: 902 1/2 First Ave. #D, Snohomish, WA 98290

Handwritten signature

The no-new-taxes budget

Politicians and talking heads said it couldn't be done. They cried to the heavens that your taxes would skyrocket to balance the budget after the terrorist attacks and recession. But we found a way to balance the budget with tough spending cuts and good ideas — not tax hikes. And we put a tighter lid on the state budget than any Legislature has done in 40 years. It's interesting — and fun — to play "what if" with the budget. Go to the Seattle Times website and try to balance the budget. You can try any option and see what happens to the bottom line. **Ax or tax: you write the budget** <http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/budget/>

Education

When it comes to our local schools, it's important to keep the faith with citizens. Last year, voters passed two landmark schools initiatives. They supported fairer pay for teachers and smaller class sizes. While we did have to cut education along with everything else, I worked hard to protect those two initiatives. They're the will of the people. I'm happy we found a way to pay the \$800 million price tag of those two initiatives while fixing a \$1.5 billion hole in the state budget — without raising your taxes.



Jefferson Davis Highway

Many people have written or called in support of or against the effort to remove the tribute to the president of the Confederacy from our state. The relatively small amount of time I dedicated to the issue was worthwhile. Such symbols of racism must not be on public property. Others have now joined the effort and it continues outside the legislature. It's right to honor local war heroes who lived in Snohomish instead of traitors who never set foot in our state.